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BRITAIN'S GREATEST HERO!

JACK STAFF™

★
COMMANDER MALONE!
HE THINKS HE CONTROLS
THE BRITISH ARMY'S
SECOND MOST
DANGEROUS
WEAPON!



★
COMMANDER HAWKES!
HE THINKS HE CAN SAVE
THE CITY OF
CASTLETOWN
SINGLE
HANDED!



★
COMMANDER STEWART!
SHE THINKS SHE'S
FOUND THE ANSWER TO
A TWENTY
YEAR OLD
MYSTERY!



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THEY'RE ALL WRONG!

image[®]

COMICS PRESENTS

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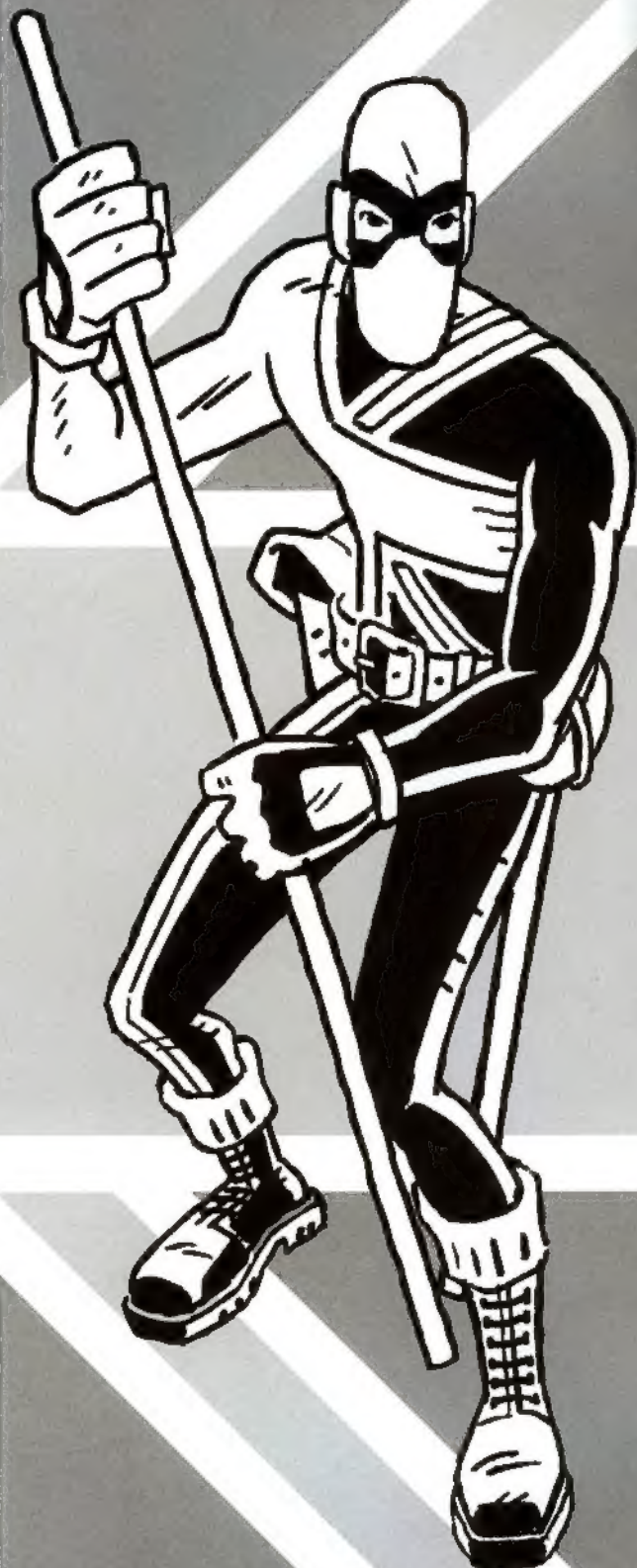
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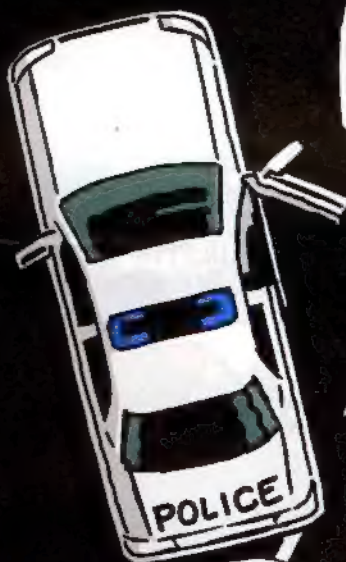
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MEANWHILE
ON THE OUTSKIRTS
OF CASTLETOWN...



WHERE
ARE YOU
GOING
DRIVER?



CASTLE
TOWN. IS
THERE A
PROBLEM?

JUST A
LITTLE
LOCAL
DIFFICULTY
I'M
AFRAID.



NO
TRAFFIC
IS BEING
ALLOWED
IN OR
OUT...



JUST
TO BE
ON THE
SAFE
SIDE.

BEST
ADVICE
I CAN
GIVE IS
THAT YOU
TURN ROUND
AND GO
HOME.



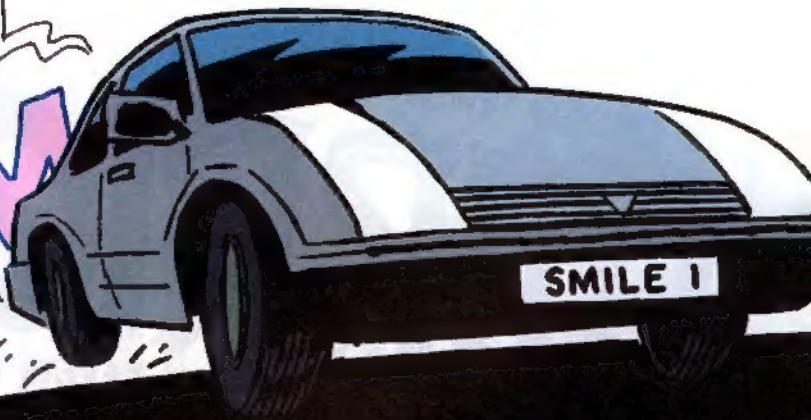
TRY
AGAIN
IN THE
MORNING.
THIS
SHOULD'VE
ALL BLOWN
OVER BY
THEN.

SORRY
OFFICER
...

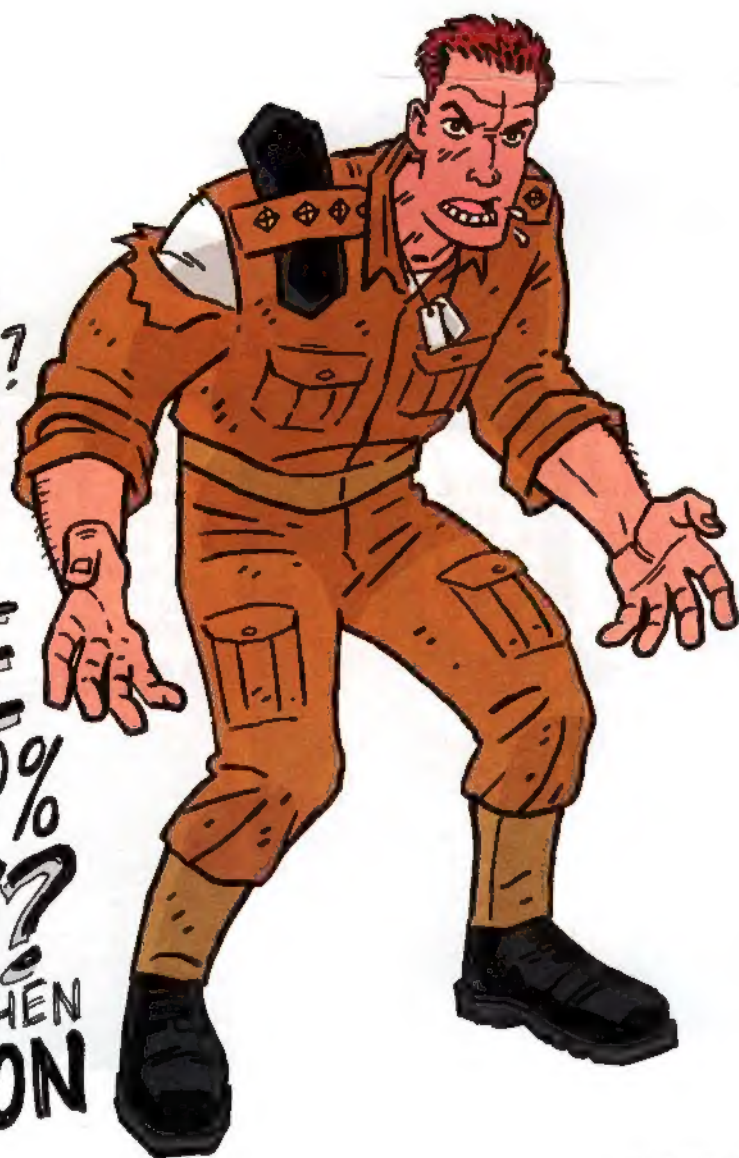


VRON!

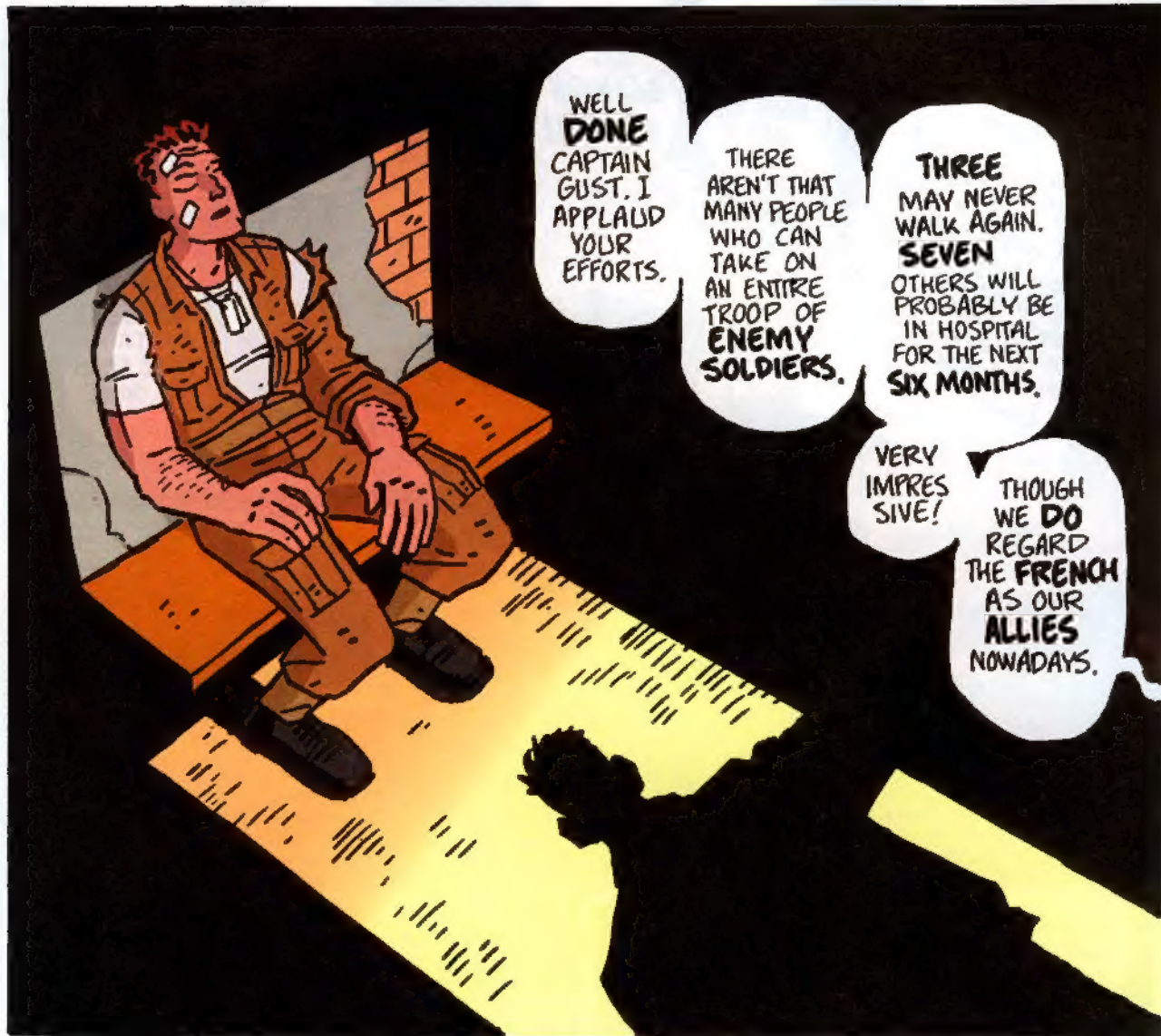
I DON'T
THINK THIS
ONE'S GOING
TO **BLOW**
OVER!



WHATCHA THINK
YOU'RE
LOOKIN' AT
YOU LITTLE
\$★#@%?
YOU THINK YOU
CAN TAKE ME?
YEAH?
YOU AND
WHOSE
#@★\$@%
ARMY?
COME ON THEN
COME ON



IT ENDED TWENTY YEARS AGO ON THE STREETS OF CASTLETOWN
HURRICANE
IT BEGAN SOME SEVEN MONTHS EARLIER...



WELL
DONE
CAPTAIN
GUST. I
APPLAUD
YOUR
EFFORTS.

THERE
AREN'T THAT
MANY PEOPLE
WHO CAN
TAKE ON
AN ENTIRE
TROOP OF
ENEMY
SOLDIERS.

THREE
MAY NEVER
WALK AGAIN.
SEVEN
OTHERS WILL
PROBABLY BE
IN HOSPITAL
FOR THE NEXT
SIX MONTHS.

VERY
IMPRES
SIVE!

THOUGH
WE **DO**
REGARD
THE **FRENCH**
AS OUR
ALLIES
NOWADAYS.



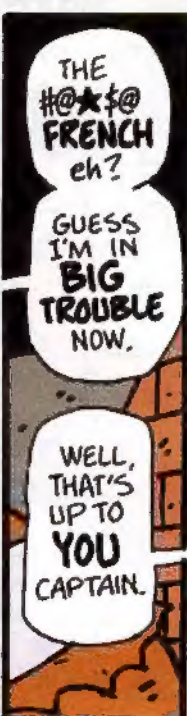
YEAH?

I DON'T
REMEMBER
ANY OF
THAT.



IT'S LIKE
SOMEONE
FLICKS A
SWITCH AND
POW!

I GET
THIS
\$#@*
RAGING
FURY
...



THE
#@*
FRENCH
eh?

GUESS
I'M IN
BIG
TROUBLE
NOW.

WELL,
THAT'S
UP TO
YOU
CAPTAIN.



I'D HATE
TO SEE
A MAN
WITH YOUR
POTENTIAL
GO TO
WASTE.

YEAH?

WHO THE
@#*
ARE YOU
ANYWAY
MISTER?



MALONE.

COMMANDER
MALONE.



YOU
CAN
CALL ME
SIR.

CONFIDENTIAL
Re PROJECT H

My dear Malone,
in view of the recent
budget cutbacks, I
have to inform you
that unless you can
show tangible results
by the end of the
month, we may have
to withdraw fund-
ing for Project H.
yours D.
Sir Dennis Williams

CON
F.A.O. COMMANDER
MALONE
PROJECT H

ALRIGHT
POWELL,
WHAT
HAVE YOU
GOT?

MALONE
YOU
\$@*#@#
MAGGOT!

I
AGREED
TO THIS
TO GET
OUT OF
JAIL--

NOT SO
YOU COULD
LOCK ME UP
IN A GLASS
#@*#@#
BOX!

JUST
RELAX
CAPTAIN,
WE'LL SOON
BE DONE.

TELL ME SOMETHING
I WANT TO HEAR
POWELL.

WE'VE
ISOLATED
AND IDE-
NTIFIED
THE CHEMICAL
AND ELEC-
TRICAL
TRIGGERS
THAT

SHORT
WORDS.

SIMPLY
PUT, WE
CAN STIMULATE
A RAGE
ATTACK
AT WILL.

C'MON -
ARE YOU TWO
JUST GOING TO
STAND ROUND
#@*#@#!
TALKING ALL
DAY?

I'M THE
ONE HANGING
HERE WITH NO
\$*%#@
CLOTHES ON!

AS YOU CAN
SEE, CAPTAIN
GUST IS HIS
USUAL CHARM-
ING SELF.

BUT BY
APPLYING
A SMALL
STIMULUS
VIA A
MICRO
IMPLANT
...

OY! \$*#@%!
LET ME OUT
OF HERE!

"HE'S A
FASCINATING
SUBJECT
COMMANDER"

DID YOU KNOW
HE ACTUALLY
PHYSICALLY
CHANGES
DURING THESE
ATTACKS?

YOU TALKIN'
ABOUT ME
YOU LITTLE
...

HIS MUSCLE
TISSUE PUMPS
UP, MAKING
HIS BODY LOOK
BIGGER AND
INCREASING
HIS STRENGTH.

REALLY?

HIS
SKIN
BECOMES
THICKER.
HARDER.

ALSO HIS PAIN
THRESH-
OLD GOES
UP.

FASCIN-
ATING.

AND THESE
RAGES-
THEY ARE
...

HIS
BRAIN
SEEMS TO
REVERT TO
A MORE
PRIMITIVE
STATE.

AFTER
THE RAGE,
HE WILL
REMEMBER
NOTHING
OF WHAT
HAPPEN-
ED.

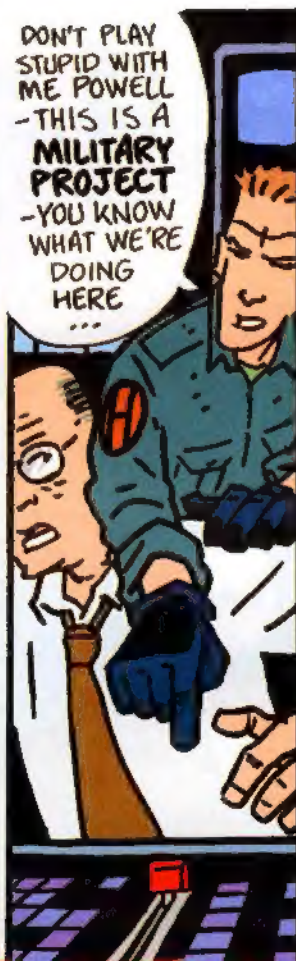
ADJUST-
ABLE?

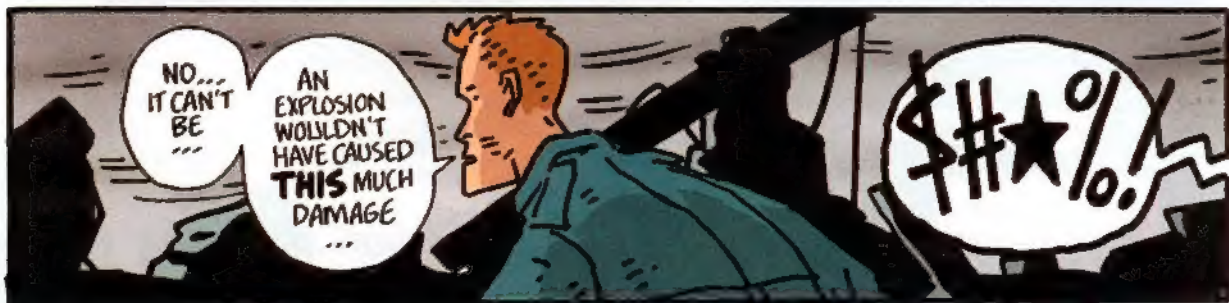
oh
YES
...

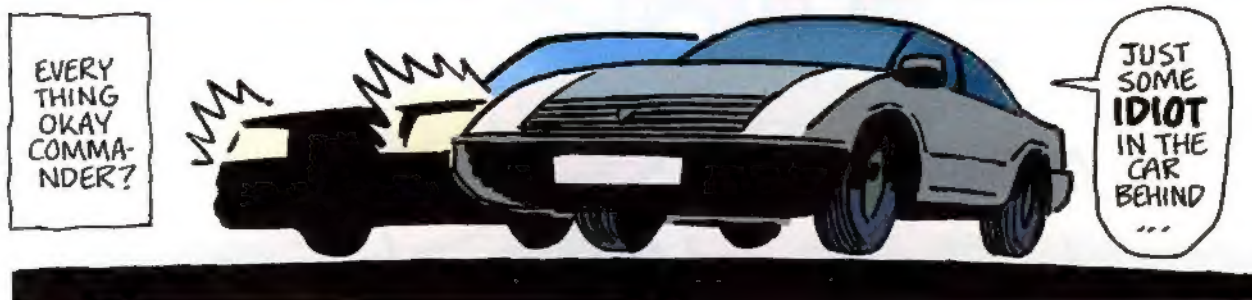
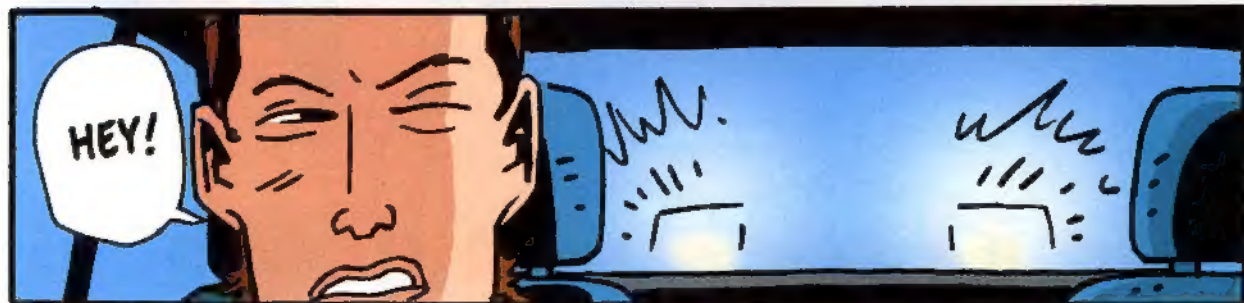
IF WE
TURN
DOWN
THE
STIMULUS
...

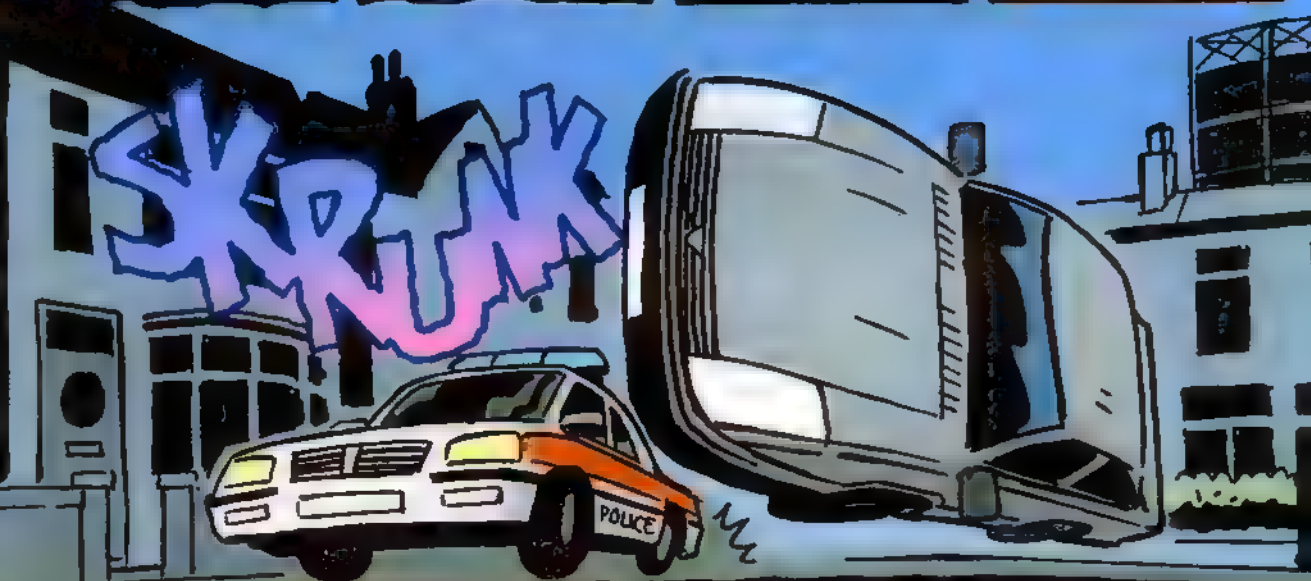
"CAPTAIN GUST
RETURNS TO
A 'NORMAL'
CALM AND
RELAXED STATE
..."

"WITH NOTHING
MORE THAN A
HEADACHE
AS A REMINDER
OF WHAT
HAPPENED."









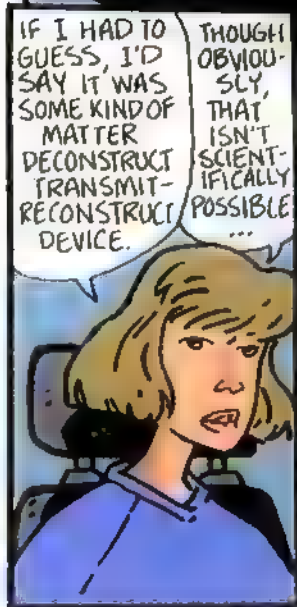


WOW!
I'VE SEEN
PICTURES
OF THIS-
BUT I'VE
NEVER BEEN
INSIDE
BEFORE.

I
HAVE.

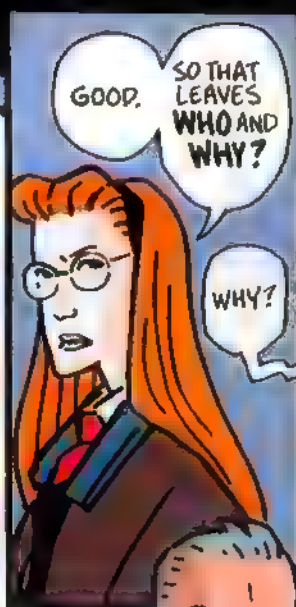
SO, ONE
MINUTE WE'RE
BEING CHASED
BY AN ANGRY
CROWD. THE
NEXT, I DON'T
KNOW **WHERE**
WE ARE
...

HOW
DID **THAT**
HAPPEN?



IF I HAD TO
GUESS, I'D
SAY IT WAS
SOME KIND OF
MATTER
DECONSTRUCT
TRANSMIT-
RECONSTRUCT
DEVICE.

THOUGH
OBTAIN-
SLY,
THAT
ISN'T
SCIENT-
IFICALLY
POSSIBLE
...



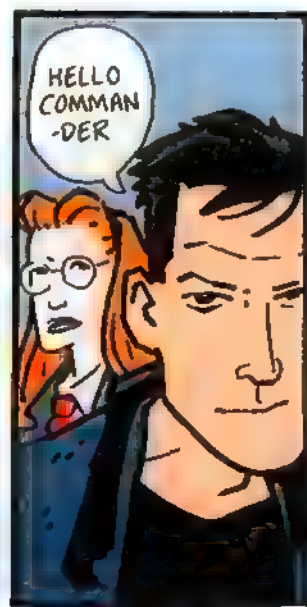
GOOD.

SO THAT
LEAVES
WHO AND
WHY?

WHY?



BECAUSE I WILL NOT
STAND BY AND WATCH
WHEN PEOPLE ARE
IN NEED **YOUNG LADY.**



HELLO
COMMAN-
-DER

IN THE 1960'S HE LED
THE SPECIALIST CRIME
FIGHTING GROUP KNOWN
AS **UNIT D!**

NOW HE FIGHTS A
SINGLE HANDED
WAR AGAINST
CRIME!

SMITH.

COMMANDER
HAWKES



I THOUGHT THIS PLACE HAD BEEN PUT IN MOTHBALLS A LONG TIME AGO.

I THOUGHT THE SAME OF YOU SMITH.

LOOK, I HATE TO BREAK-UP THIS TOUCHING REUNION, BUT COULD SOMEONE TELL ME WHERE WE ARE?

THIS IS THE THUNDER SHIP UNIT D USED IN THE NINETEEN SIXTIES

MIND YOU ...

I DON'T REMEMBER THE TRANSPORTER GIZMO BEFORE.



SPOILS OF WAR SMITH,

SPOILS OF WAR.



WHAT'S THAT?



THAT MAN! YOU'RE CARRYING ...

I'M GETTING UNUSUAL ENERGY READINGS OFF HIM.

WHO IS HE?



I DON'T KNOW.

HE'S SOME GUY WHO WAS ATTACKED BY THE MOB.

HE NEEDS HELP.

MEDICAL HELP.

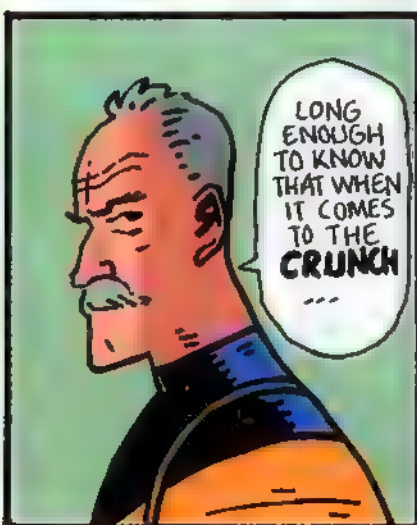
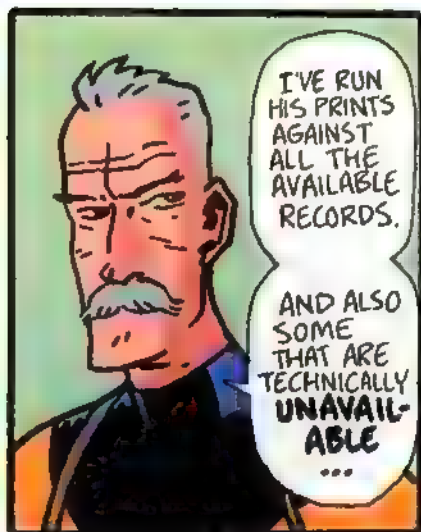


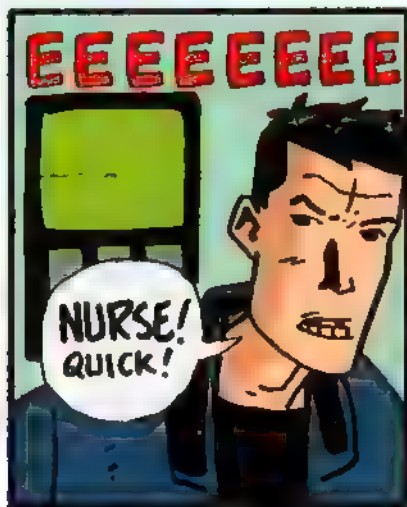
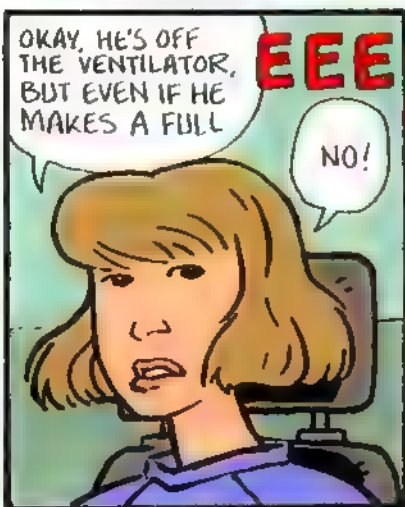
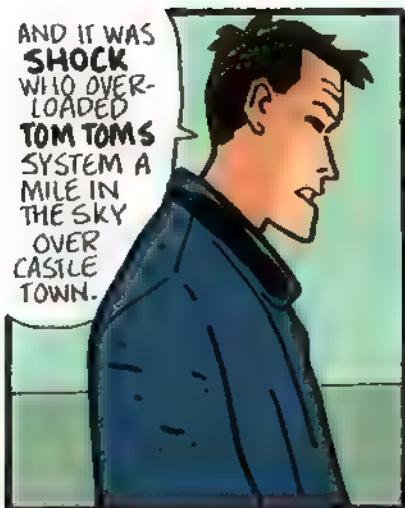
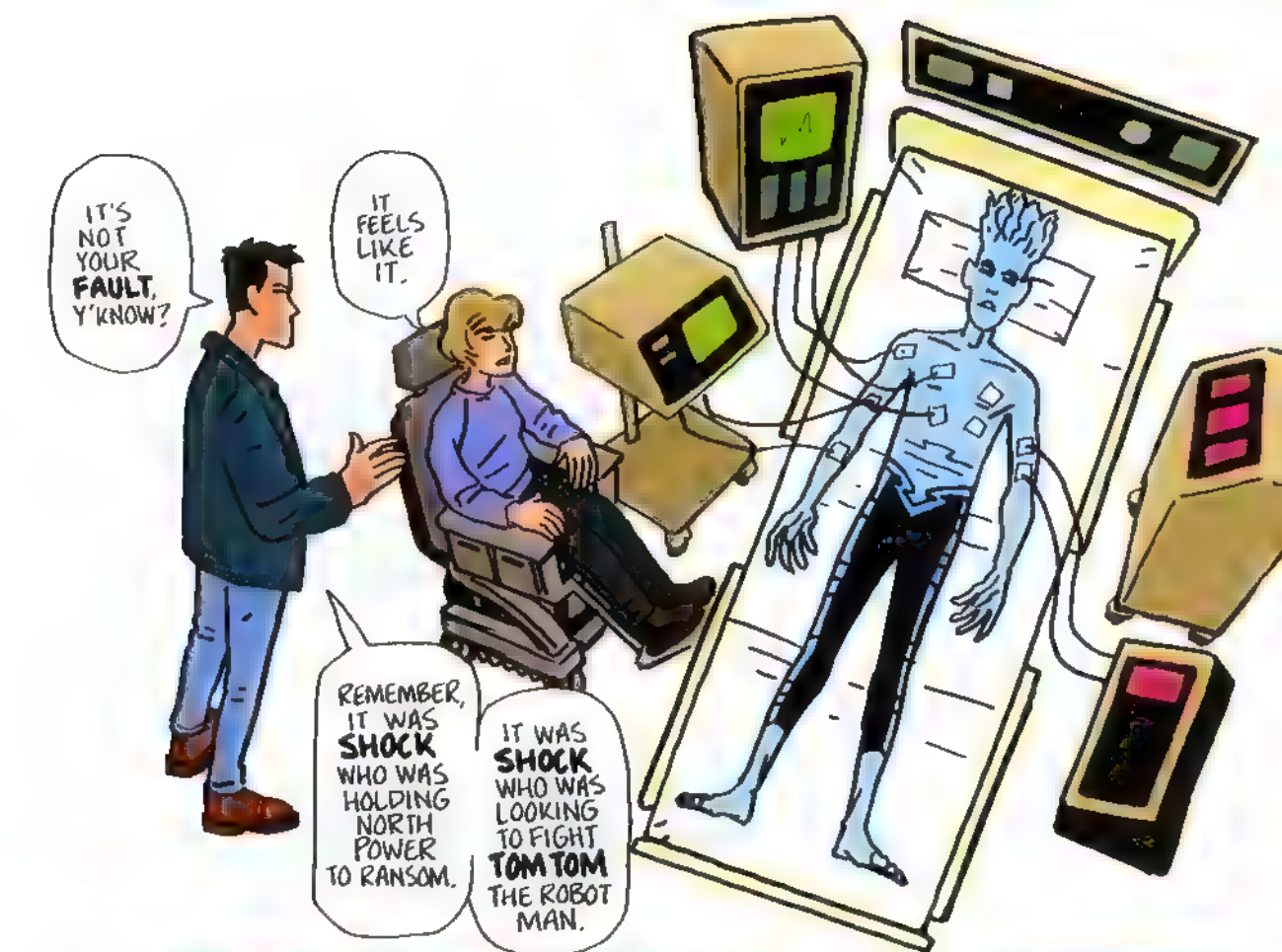
ALRIGHT. STRAP YOURSELVES IN---


SO, WHY'S IT CALLED THUNDER SHIP?

"I'LL GET YOU TO THE HOSPITAL."









IS EVERY BODY OKAY?

NEED ANY HELP?

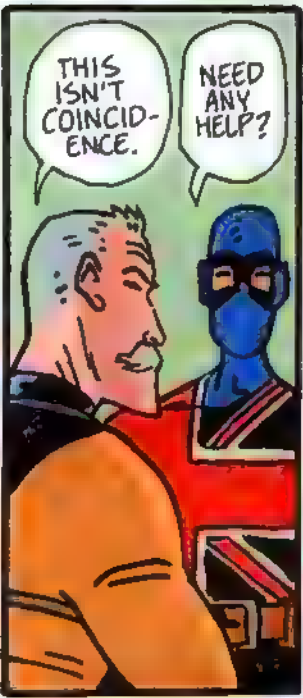
NOT FROM YOU STAFF.



LIGHTS ARE BACK ON.

I GUESS THE EMERGENCY GENERATOR MUST'VE KICKED IN.

I DON'T LIKE IT. FIRST THE CITY GOES CRAZY AND NOW THIS?




THIS ISN'T COINCIDENCE.

NEED ANY HELP?




TAKE THIS.

RADIO CONTACT AT ALL TIMES.



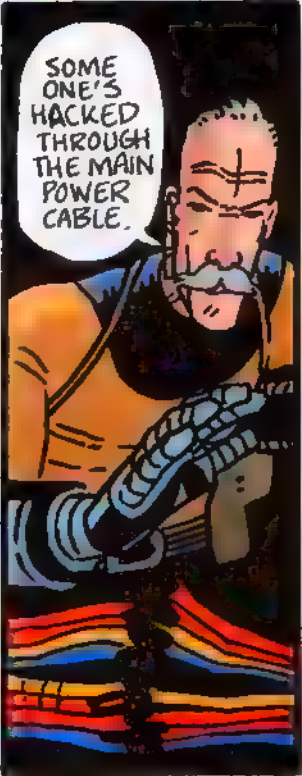
IT ALL SEEMS PRETTY QUIET.

I'M JUST GOING THROUGH THE ACCIDENT AND EMERGENCY




NOTHING TO SEE HERE. HOW ABOUT YOU?

WELL, I'VE FOUND OUT WHY THE LIGHTS WENT OUT



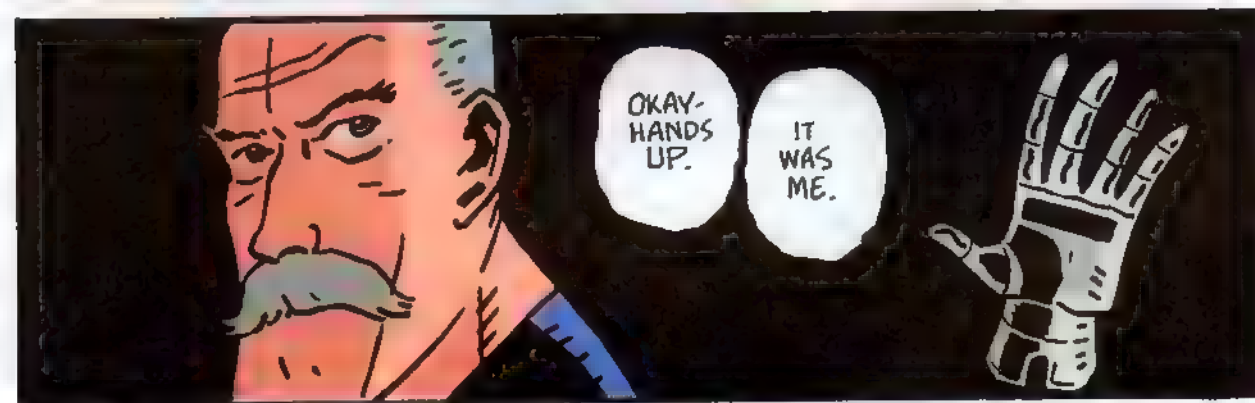
SOME ONE'S HACKED THROUGH THE MAIN POWER CABLE.

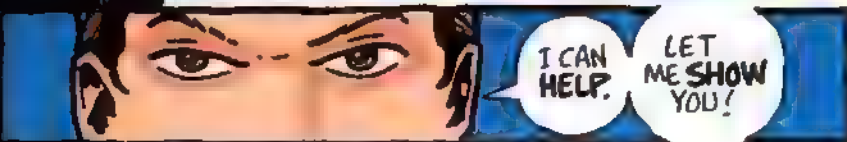
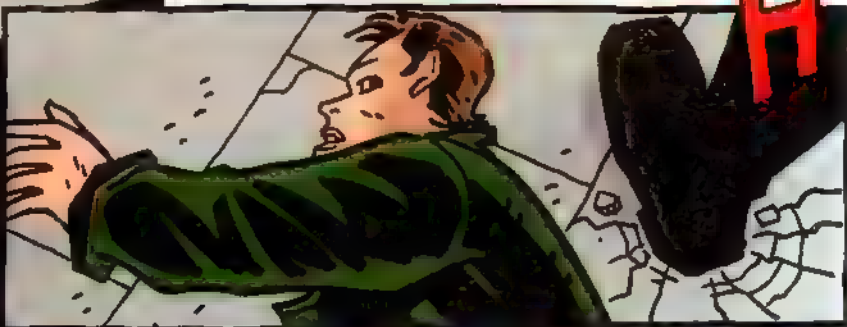


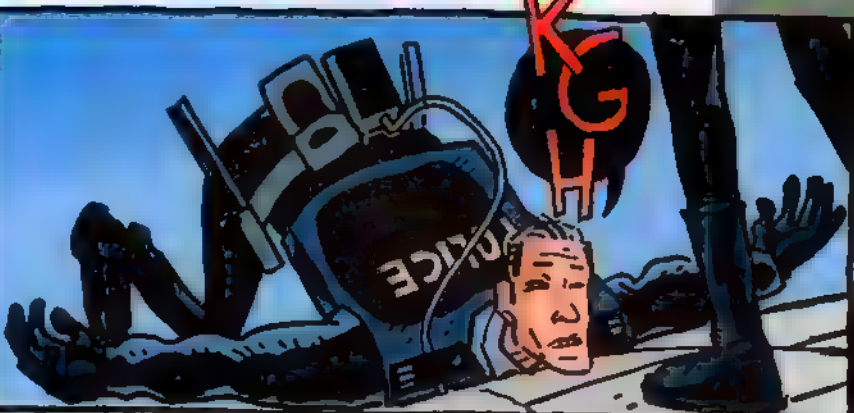
BUT THEY MUST'VE GIVEN THEMSELVES A NASTY SHOCK

YOU?

WHAT'S THAT STAFF?



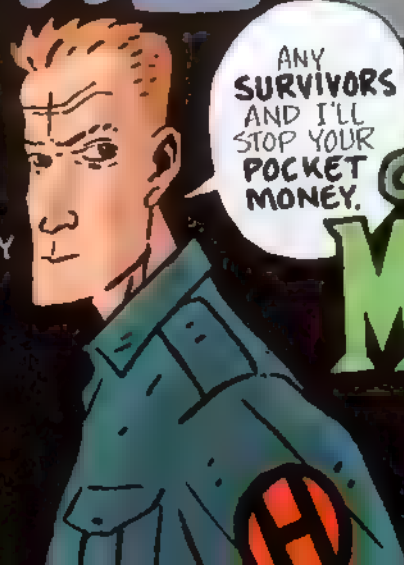
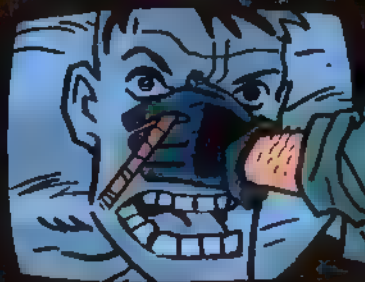
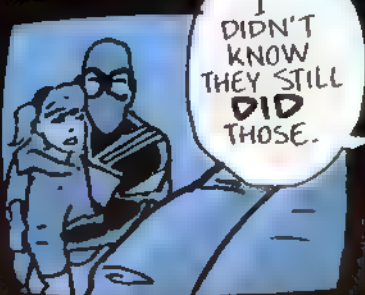


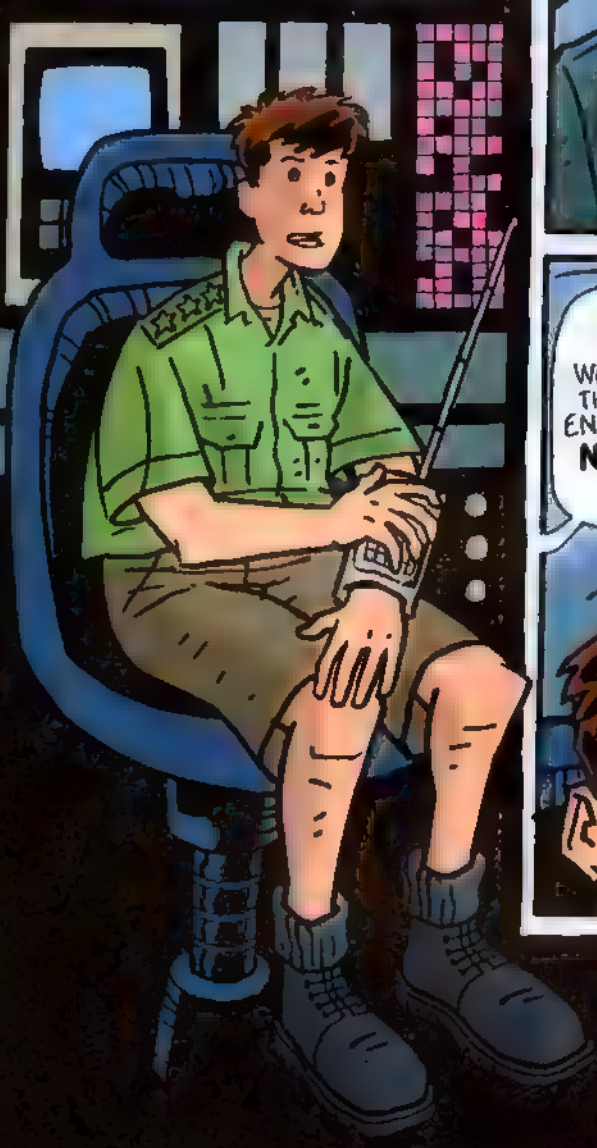


DAMMIT
SPENCE!
-THIS IS
WORSE THAN
I THOUGHT!
THE
HURRICANE
ISN'T IN
CASTLETOWN

THE
HURRICANE
IS
CASTLE
TOWN!







BE
CAREFUL
WHAT YOU
SAY
**COLONEL
STEWART**
...

YOU'RE
IN DANGER
OF STEPPING
OVER
THE LINE
HERE.

YOU
STEPPED OVER
THE LINE THE
MOMENT YOU
ALLOWED
YOUR ACTIONS
TO ENDANGER
INNOCENT
CIVILIANS.

YOU'LL
NEVER
GET AWAY
WITH THIS
**INSUBORD-
INATION**
STEWART.

YOU'RE
OUT OF YOUR
DEPTH
HERE GIRL-
WILLIAMS
WILL BACK
ME ON
THIS, YOU
KNOW.

I'VE BEEN
REPORTING
BACK TO
WILLIAMS
SINCE I WAS
ASSIGNED
HERE
COMMANDER
...

HE KNOWS
EXACTLY
HOW YOU'VE
BEEN
RUNNING
**PROJECT
H.**
SIR.



OKAY
COLONEL -
IF **THAT'S**
WHAT YOU
WANT -

HAVE IT!
YOU TAKE
CONTROL!



AND I'LL
TAKE
GENERAL
TUBBS'
LITTLE
ARMY
...



WHAT?

LET'S
SEE
HOW
YOU
GET
ON
NOW!



COMMA-
NDER
MALONE!

WAIT!



WHAT
ARE
YOU
DOING?





oh my ...
I HADN'T REALISED, SO MUCH DESTRUCTION ...

SO MUCH DEVAS-TATION ...
AND TO THINK THEY ACCUSED PROJECT H OF BEING A WASTE OF MONEY AND RESOURCES ...

BEEP BEEP

PITY THE SAME CAN'T BE SAID OF THIS DAMN TRACKING DEVICE.
BEEP BEEP

ACCORDING TO THIS I SHOULD BE RIGHT ON TOP OF WEAPON H ...

BUT I DON'T SEE ANY ...
BEEP BEEP

BEEP BEEP

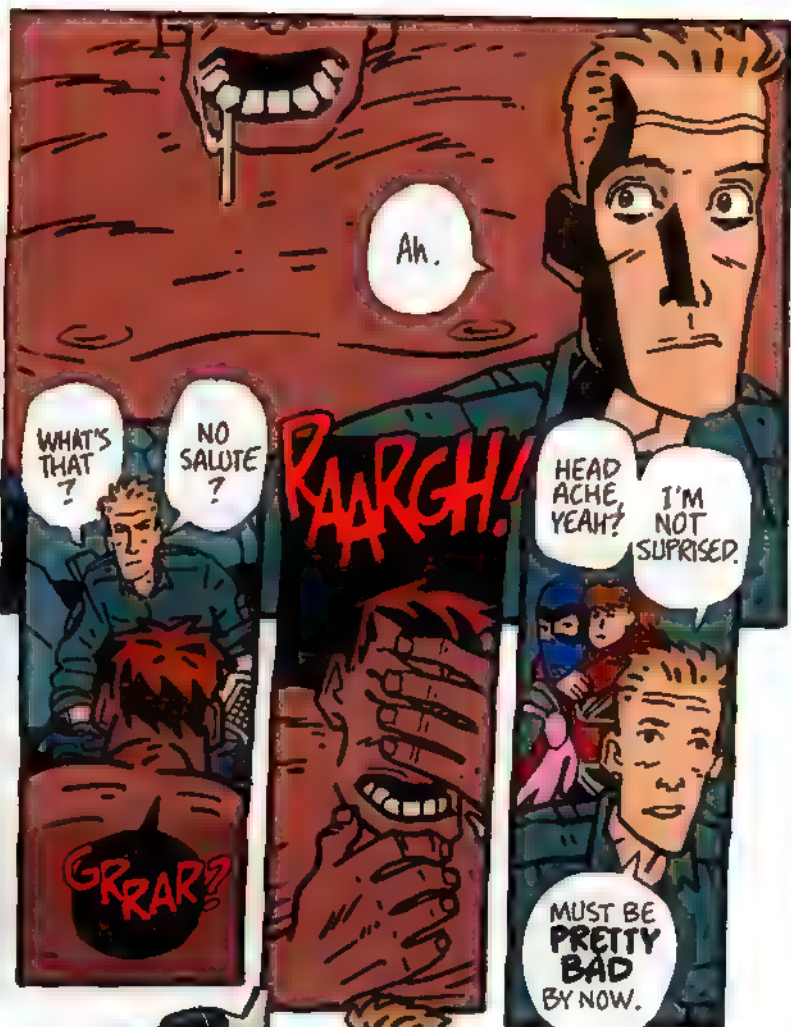
THOOM!!





YOU'RE
THE
SUPER
HERO

... SO
WHERE
...



WHAT'S
THAT
?

NO
SALUTE
?

Ah.

RAARGH!

HEAD
ACHE,
YEAH?

I'M
NOT
SURPRISED.

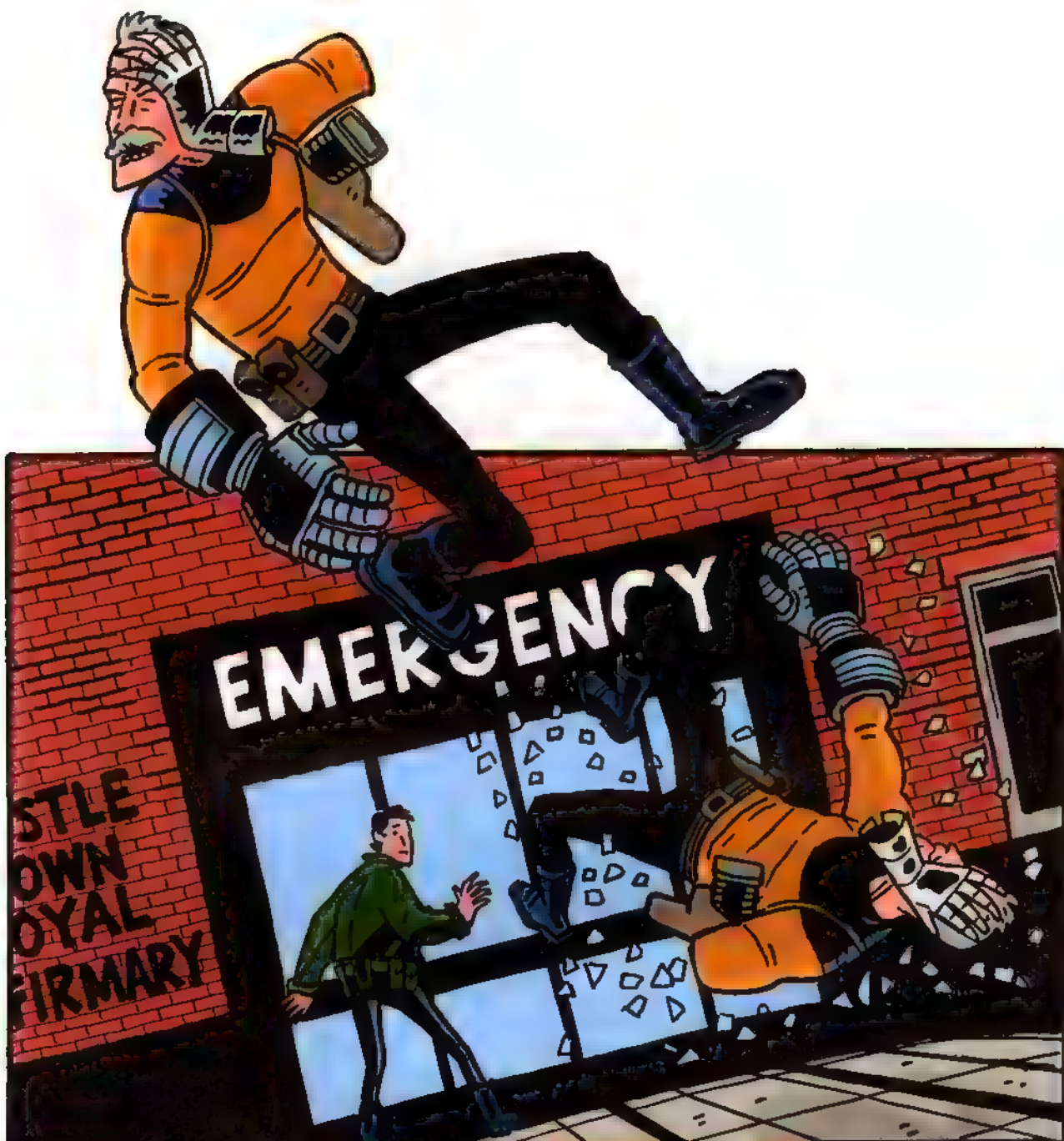
GRAR?

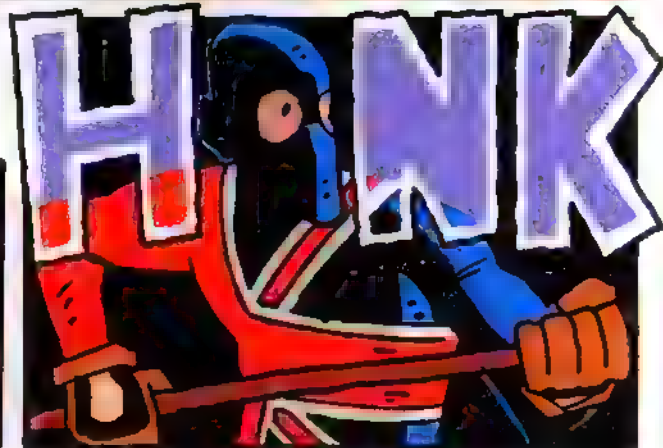
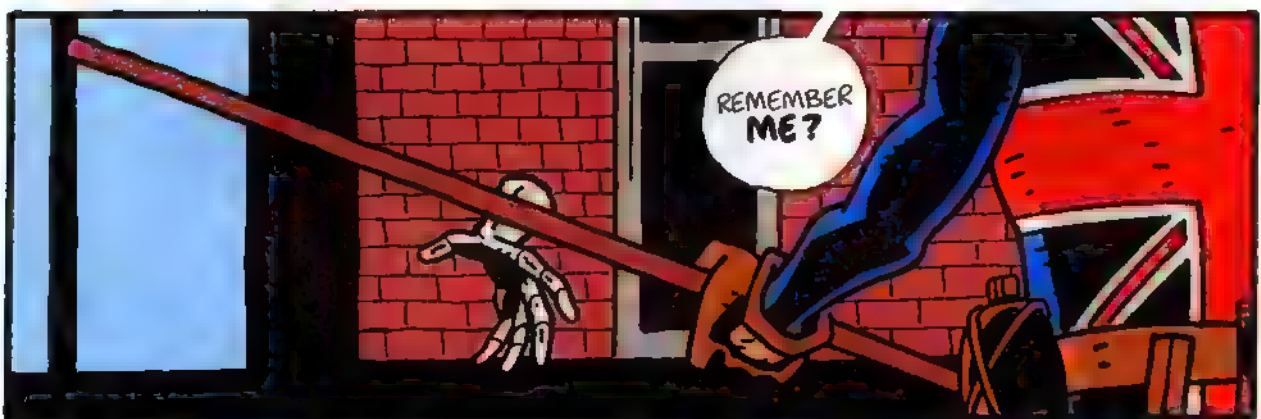
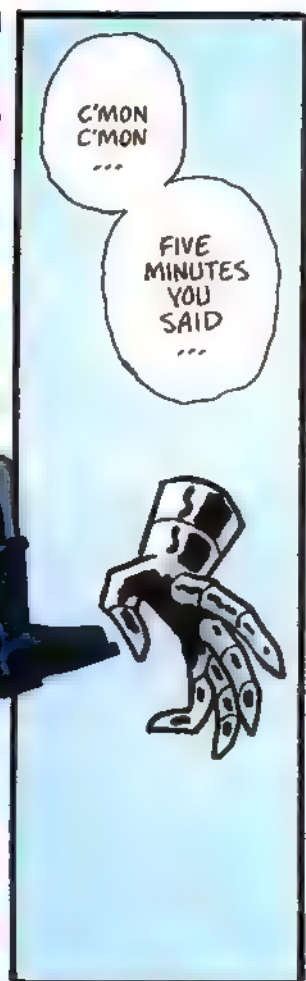
MUST BE
PRETTY
BAD
BY NOW.

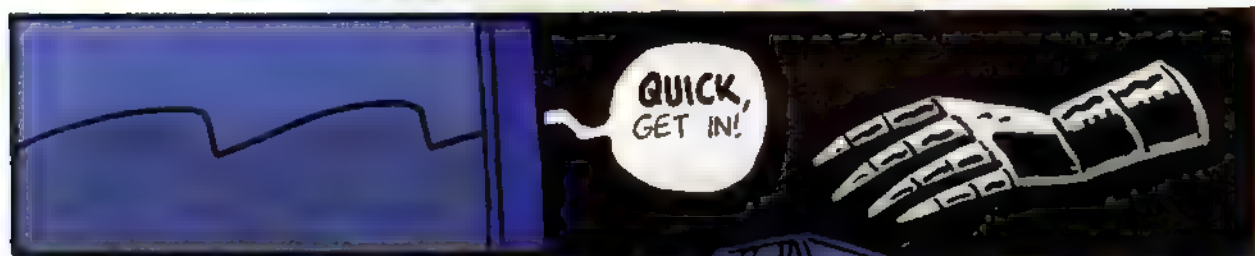
DON'T
WORRY.

I'VE GOT
JUST THE
THING YOU
NEED.

BY THE
TIME I'VE
FINISHED
YOU WON'T
FEEL A
THING.







THIS SEEMS
A LITTLE
OUTSIDE
YOUR USUAL
SPHERE OF
ACTIVITY
...

THERE WAS
A MAN
BROUGHT
IN HERE
EARLIER-
SOMEONE
TRIED TO
ACCESS
MILITARY
FINGER
PRINT
FILES.

WE BROUGHT A MAN
IN THIS AFTERNOON.
HE'D BEEN ATTACKED
BY A MOB AND THROWN
THROUGH A GLASS
WINDOW. HE DIDN'T
LOOK IN GOOD SHAPE.

I'M NOT SO
WORRIED ABOUT
HIS HEALTH
AS THE HEALTH
OF EVERYONE
IN THIS
CITY.

LOOK,
I DON'T
KNOW WHO
YOU ARE,
BUT THIS IS
A HOSPITAL
WARD.

THESE
PATIENTS
NEED REST
-- YOU
CAN'T
JUST
BARGE
IN LIKE
THIS!

DOCTOR.

I'VE
FOUGHT
MY WAY
HALFWAY
ACROSS
CASTLETOWN
TO GET
HERE.

PLEASE,
DON'T
STAND
IN MY
WAY
NOW.





SO
TELL
ME--



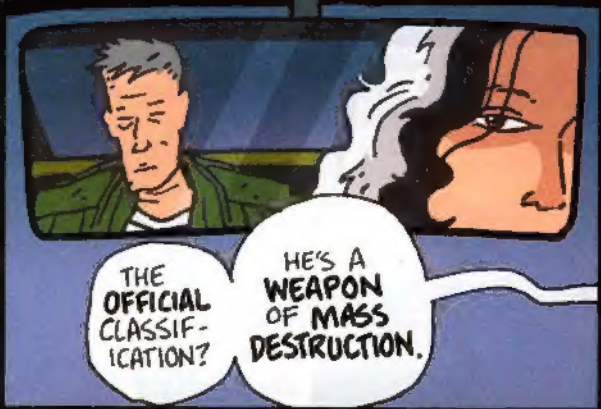
WHAT
DID YOUR
LAST
DECOY
DIE
OF?



SMOKING.



WHO'S
THE GUY
IN THE
BACK SEAT
S'POSED
TO BE
ANYWAY?



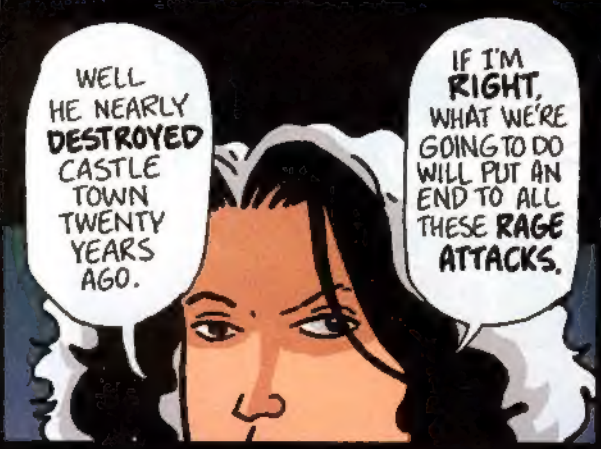
THE
OFFICIAL
CLASSIF-
ICATION?

HE'S A
WEAPON
OF MASS
DESTRUCTION.



oh YEAH?

NEVER
QUITE AS
IMPRESSIVE
WHEN YOU'RE
UP CLOSE,
ARE
THEY?



WELL
HE NEARLY
DESTROYED
CASTLE
TOWN
TWENTY
YEARS
AGO.

IF I'M
RIGHT,
WHAT WE'RE
GOING TO DO
WILL PUT AN
END TO ALL
THESE RAGE
ATTACKS.



AND
IF YOU'RE
WRONG?

YOU
WON'T
HAVE TO
WORRY
ABOUT THE
SMOKING.

**MEANWHILE
BACK IN INTENSIVE
CARE...**

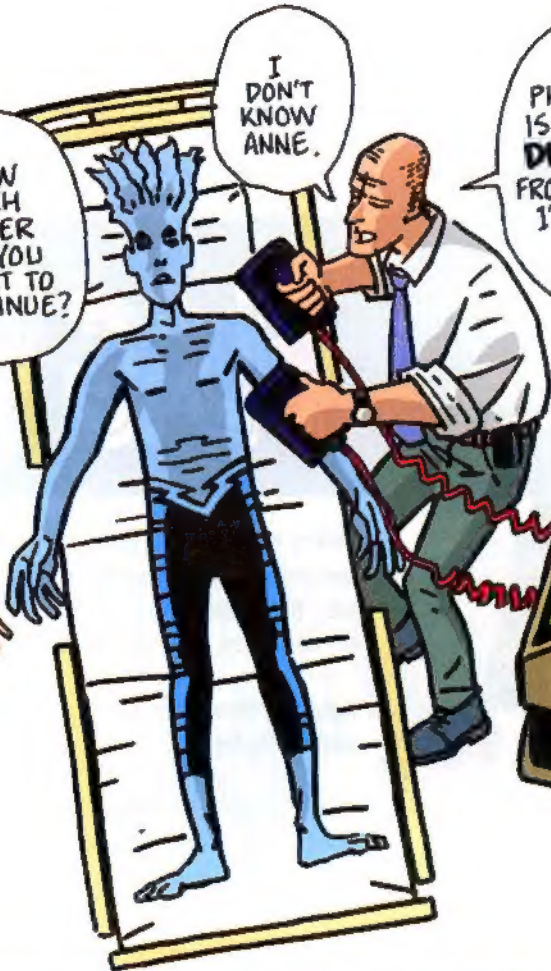
IT'S BEEN
TWENTY
MINUTES
DOCTOR

HOW
MUCH
LONGER
DO YOU
WANT TO
CONTINUE?

I
DON'T
KNOW
ANNE.

HIS
PHYSIOLOGY
IS JUST SO
DIFFERENT
FROM ANYTHING
I'VE SEEN
BEFORE.

I DON'T
KNOW IF
THIS IS
DOING
ANY **GOOD**
AT ALL.



EEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEE

WE'LL
GIVE IT
ONE MORE
GO -- HE'S
DEAD
ANYWAY

NO.
NOTHING.

OKAY.
THAT'S
IT.

TIME
OF DEATH
- EIGHT
TWENTY.

CLEAR!

EEEEEE

EEE



I've been in the 'comic biz' a while now, and over the years I've picked up a few tricks of the trade, a few wrinkles along the way. So here's a word of advice to anyone considering entering the whacky world of comics. This is the distillation of the knowledge and insights I've gained ...

Never, never, move house halfway through drawing a comic.

FLAG WAVING

That's how me and the family have spent our summer, and it's had a detrimental effect on (let's be honest here) an already shaky schedule. Still, everything is now unpacked and my drawing table is in the corner of my new studio so it's back to work and no excuses.

Actually, there are a couple of things I'd like to blame on the move whilst I'm here.

Firstly, there's no letters page this issue - I did receive quite a bit of post via the internet over the July/August period, but as this was a time when we were passing through the wilderness (or renting a house in Bridgwater) - I was only able to read my email by signing on as a guest via another computer. What I didn't know then was that posts are not automatically filed away when you read them but are instead cast into cyberspace never to be seen again. It's been quite a steep learning curve this summer.

The other thing is that the Burglar Bill series has had to take a short break as I've not had chance to sort out the solicitation details to send to Diamond. Issue 3 will be out in November, but issue 4 will now be out in March 2004. The remaining 2 issues will be out in May and July.

Actually, there's going to be a bucket load of Paul Grist comics coming out in the new year as from January 2004, Image will be publishing my other comic series, Kane. This is a black and white crime comic I started self publishing back in 1993. Image will be releasing the comic as a series of trade paperbacks, beginning with Greetings From New Eden, which collects the first four issues of the comic. There should be a new book collection every 3 to 4 months until all the single issues have been collected (about the end of 2005 I reckon) and then I should be moving onto all new Kane books.

And to keep all the long-time readers of Kane happy - I'm planning on beginning work on an all new Kane book early next year, so hopefully there should be an all new Kane book out by next Christmas. We shall see. I should point out that this is just my projected publishing schedule and should not be construed as a binding agreement...

And is there space to mention the Big Jack Staff Book collecting all the black and white issues in a single hefty volume, just in time for Christmas? Well, as long as you go shopping Christmas Eve that is!

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JACK STAFF

by paul grist

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